Dear FCC: I have been a licensed Amateur Radio operator since 1961. In my opinion, it would be a grave mistake to remove the Morse Code requirement from the current Amateur Radio licensing requirement structure. If it were to be removed, in my opinion, Amateur Radio

would become another version of the now defunct Citizens Radio Service. The value of this unique hobby for recreation and emergency communications would be lost forever. Morse Code stands as an impedance to those persons not serious about our hobby and

standard that must be met by American operators desiring to preserve available frequency bandwidth and send concise message traffic. In a National or local emergency, CW operations remain the easiest mode to achieve and use when needed in the field.

As a Volunteer Examiner, I've embarked onto a new avenue to recruit new operators to this hobby and avocation remembering well the difficulty I had in becoming a Novice Class operator. Learning the code gave me added incentive to earn that license and it challenged me

to keep my operations and equipment up to date by showing me new avenues of thought and endeavor. Newer operators today simply go to Radio Shack or e-Bay to obtain the necessary equipment to use on the Amateur bands. It seems that no-one builds from 'scratch' anymore

and if the Morse Code requirement were removed from the licensing scheme; All a license candidate needs to do is memorize the questions of a license question pool to earn an upgrade.

I urge you to keep the Morse Code requirement as a part of the current licensing structure. Other countries may have dropped that requirement and I am sure that circumstances may yet occur to make them regret that decision. Let them fall into the abyss. The U.S. doesn't need to follow them.

Start your day with Yahoo! - make it your home page --0-1465190547-1124772209=:25916
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

<DIV>ECFS - Email Filing
<PROCEEDING> 05-235
<DATE>
07/19/2005
<NAME> James Burton Wilcox
<ADDRESS1> 3919 N. Clark
Street
<ADDRESS2> Apt. D
<CITY> Fresno
<STATE>
CA
<ZIP> 93726
<LAW-FIRM>
<ATTORNEY>

<FILE-NUMBER>
<DOCUMENT-TYPE> RC
<PHONE-NUMBER>
559-226-4136
<DESCRIPTION>
<CONTACT-EMAIL> midlunar@yahoo.com
<TEXT> Dear
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